

Passing the Bar

Admission to the Bar Law and Legal **Definition**. **Admission to the Bar** means the permission given to a lawyer to practice law under a particular court system. The permission is given by a court that functions under the court system in which a lawyer intends to practice.

I am seeking historical information on the process as to how individuals such as my grandfather Judge Lewis (H.) Blackledge were accepted into the bar without an exam. He graduated in Jun 1888 from high school at Bloomington, NE. Lewis read law as a high school student under the firm of Shephard & Black and was admitted to the bar Dec 5, 1887, before he graduated from high school. Another example is my great uncle Albert Dayton Ranney. About 1880, Albert Ranney attended but one year of Hastings College, Hastings, NE, and he passed the bar exam.

I would appreciate any assistance with this history of Nebraska State Bar Association.

Response (8 June 2017) from

Nebraska State Bar Association

In response to your "Contact Us" submission:

Hi Michael,

As the NSBA no longer the licensing body for lawyers in Nebraska, we no longer have any historical records regarding the admission to the practice. We suggest contacting the Nebraska Bar Commission. Their office handles all applications for admission to practice law in Nebraska. Here is their contact information:

Nebraska State Bar Commission of the Nebraska Supreme Court
3806 Normal Blvd.
Lincoln, Nebraska 68506-5241
Telephone: [\(402\) 471-3091](tel:(402)471-3091)
nsc.attyadmissions@nebraska.gov

Thank you,

To: Nebraska State Bar Commission of the Nebraska Supreme Court

I understand you may be able to assist me regarding some history of admission to the practice of law in Nebraska.

I am seeking historical information on the process as to how individuals such as my grandfather Judge Lewis (H.) Blackledge were admitted to the bar. He graduated in Jun 1888 from high school at Bloomington, NE.

Lewis read law as a high school student under the firm of Shephard & Black and was admitted to the bar Dec 5, 1887, before he graduated from high school. How would this admission be recorded?

Another example is my great uncle Albert Dayton Ranney. About 1880, Albert Ranney attended but one year of Hastings College, Hastings, NE, and he passed the bar exam.

Both these relatives later became judges in Nebraska.

I would appreciate your assistance with historical records or understanding regarding the admission to the practice in Nebraska at that time.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Blackledge
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